

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/601,582	12/04/2000	Qingyun Liu	20052YP	8319
23720	7590 02/10/2005	EXAMINER		INER
	S, MORGAN & AMER	KAUFMAN, CLAIRE M		
10333 RICHMOND, SUITE 1100 HOUSTON, TX 77042			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
110001011,	170 770 12		1646	

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

DATE MAILED:

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	
		EXAMINER		EXAMINER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER	
		•		0204	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Commissioner for Patents** 

#### SUSPENSION

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Attachment: An Examiner's Amendment is attached.

#### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for the Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Shelley Fussey on November 11, 2004, and January 13, 2005, respectively.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

Please replace claim 20 as follows:

- 20. (Amended) A method of expressing a truncated version of HG20 protein comprising:
- (a) transfecting a host cell with an expression vector that encodes an HG20 protein that has been truncated at the carboxy terminus, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence defined by positions 1-480 as set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:2;
- (b) culturing the transfected cells of step (a) under conditions such that the truncated HG20 protein is expressed.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of claim 2 in another application.

### Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure Statement filed 09/27/04 has been considered and does not affect the patentability of the pending claims.

Art Unit: 1646

#### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Claire M. Kaufman, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0873. Dr. Kaufman can generally be reached Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30AM to 2:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Caputa, can be reached at (571) 272-0829.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Claire M. Kaufman, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1646

February 7, 2005

LORRAINE SPECTOR PRIMARY EXAMINER

Page 4

JASEMINE C. CHAMBERS
DIRECTOR
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

Tasemin C. Chamber